What does it mean to you? It means that you are protected against sex discrimination in your education and programs and activities here at CUA. Sex discrimination includes harassment and sexual assault or violence which is absolutely not tolerated. CUA will uphold the law and respond by protecting the victim and community, and conducting prompt and thorough investigations.

Did You Know That CUA has a Title IX Coordinator? The Title IX Coordinator is Lisa Wood, and her office is located at Leary 170. She can be reached at 202-319-6594 or at titleix-coord@cua.edu. Students can contact Lisa to file complaints under Title IX. Other responsibilities include providing training on Title IX obligations to the University community, providing oversight of and conducting investigations, and monitoring the University’s compliance with Title IX.

You can also file complaints with the Department of Public Safety at 202-319-5111, which is available 24 hours a day, or the Dean of Students at 202-319-5619.

You can also contact the enforcement office of the Office of Civil Rights, (OCR), U.S. Department of Education, if you have questions about sex discrimination, or have been a victim of sex discrimination. The District of Columbia office is located at: U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW Washington, DC 20202. Phone: 202-453-6020 Fax: 202-453-6021 TDD: 800-877-8339 or OCR.DC@ed.gov.

What does sexual harassment look like? It is unwelcome touching or physical acts of a sexual nature, unwelcome comments or jokes, emails or other messages with unwelcome or offensive sexual context that has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with your educational environment or creates a hostile learning environment.

What is sexual assault? Is any sexual intercourse by any person upon another with force or without consent. It includes oral, anal and vaginal penetration, to any degree, with any object.

What does consent look like? Informed, freely given, mutually understandable words or actions that indicate a willingness to participate in a mutually agreed upon sexual activity. Effective consent may never be obtained when there is a threat of force or violence, or any other form of coercion or intimidation. Consent cannot be obtained from someone who is mentally or physically incapacitated whether due to drugs, alcohol or some other condition, or from a minor. Silence or lack of active resistance does not imply consent. Intoxication is not an excuse for failure to obtain consent. A person incapacitated by alcohol or drug consumption, or who is unconscious or asleep or otherwise physically or cognitively impaired, is incapable of giving consent.

You will be expected to understand when another person is impaired, and will be held accountable if you should have “reasonably known” that the person could not give consent.

It is important to think before you act, and be sure that both parties can reasonably understand the situation and can actively consent. Be sure to check out the following:

Student Code of Conduct: http://policies.cua.edu/studentlife/studentconduct/conduct-full.cfm
Sexual Misconduct Policy: http://policies.cua.edu/studentlife/studentconduct/assault.cfm